

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Yoshiyuki MATSUNAGA, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: Unassigned

SERIAL NO: New Continuation Application

FILED: Herewith

: EXAMINER: Unassigned

FOR IMAGE SYSTEM, SOLID-STATE:

IMAGING SEMICONDUCTOR...

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, before the first line, insert:

--This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/022,339, filed February 11, 1998, which has been abandoned, which is a continuation of PCT/JP96/02285, filed August 12, 1996, the disclosures of which are herein incorporated by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-6, 8-35 and 39-66 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. The present application is a continuation of application Serial No., 09/022,339, which has been

abandoned. Claims 7 and 36-38 are present in this application, claims 1-6, 8-35 and 39-66 being canceled. Accordingly, examination on the merits is in order, and an early and favorable decision is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record Registration No. 25,599

Carl E. Schlier

Registration No. 34,426

22850

(703) 413-3000 (703) 413-2220 (fax)

GJM/CES/maj